

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PHNOM 08412 140316Z

63

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-20 IO-13 NIC-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /119 W

----- 078629

R 131103Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2565

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

USSAG

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 8412

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PINT CB

SUBJ: GKR REACTION TO THE AUGUST 15 BOMBING DEADLINE'

1. SUMMARY. THE GKR APPEARS TO BE MAKING A CONCERTED EFFORT TO BOLSTER UP POPULAR MORALE AND SCREW UP ITS OWN COURAGE TO CONFRONT WHATEVER CHALLENGE MUST BE FACED AFTER AUGUST 15. BOTH OF THE GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED KHMER LANGUAGE DAILIES HAVE FEATURED EDITORIALS ASSERTING THE ABILITY OF THE KHMER TO DEFEND THEMSELVES, AND PRESIDENT LON NOL AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION HAVE SPOKEN PUBLICLY ALONG THIS LINE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE ARMY DAILY RUOM KAMLAING CALLS AUGUST 15 THE DATE ON WHICH THE KHMER REPUBLIC WILL REACH ITS MATURITY, QTE WHEN IT WILL BE ABLE TO DEFEND ITSELF AND FLY WITH ITS OWN WINGS UMQTE. THE TWO THINGS WHICH WILL MAKE THIS POSSIBLE, THE PAPER DECLARES, ARE THE STRENGTH OF THE ANTI-COMMUNIST KHMER POPULATION AND THE STRENGTH OF THE ARMY, WHICH NOW HAS 3 YEARS OF BATTLE EXPERIENCE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PHNOM 08412 140316Z

3. PRAYOCH KHMER, THE GOVERNMENT DAILY, IN AN EDITORIAL

ENTITLED THERE IS NOTHING TO BE ALARMED ABOUT, SCOFFS AT THOSE WHO EXPRESS FEAR OF A VC/NVA INVESTITURE OF PHNOM PENH ON AUGUST 15 AND RETORTS THAT QTE WE KHMER... ALREADY KNOW THAT WE WILL BE CAPABLE OF DEFENDING OURSELVES UNQTE. THE ENEMY COULD NOT CONQUER PHNOM PENH WHEN THE KHMER ARMY WAS ONLY 30,000 STRONG AND POORLY EQUIPED, THE PAPER RECALLS, SO NOW THAT THE ARMY IS MUCH LARGER WITH MODERN ARMS AND THREE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE THERE IS CERTAINLY NO REASON TO BE ALARMED.

4. PRESIDENT LON NOL IN A BRIEF RADIO ADDRESS TO THE NATION ON THE EVENING OF AUGUST 11 DENIED "ENEMY RUMORS" THAT PHNOM PENH WOULD FALL AND THE REPUBLICANS SEEK EXILE AND AFFIRMED THAT THE REPUBLIC WILL ACHIEVE FURTHER VICTORIES OVER THE ENEMY AFTER AUGUST 15. "WE HAVE NO REASON FOR WORRY," HE STATED, " BECAUSE WE HAVE OUR AIR FORCE, ARTILLERY AND ARMORED VEHICLES". MINISTER OF INFORMATION SUM CHHUM EMPHASIZED THE SAME THEMES IN HIS AUGUST 13 PRESS CONFERENCE.
SWANK

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PHNOM08412
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730841/aaaabeel.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Dec-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GKR REACTION TO THE AUGUST 15 BOMBING DEADLINE'
TAGS: PINT, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005